

Annapolis, March 20, 1906.

A special meeting of the Board of Public Works was held in the Governor's office in Annapolis, at 3.45 p.m., on Tuesday, March 20th; present: Governor Warfield, Comptroller Atkinson, and Treasurer Vandiver.

The chairman submitted the following communication, with the attached report, from the Joint Special Committee in the matter of the Washington Branch of the B. & O. R. R.

JOINT SPECIAL COMMITTEE

In the Matter of the Washington Branch of the
Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company.

Old Senate Chamber,

Annapolis, Md., March 19, 1906

Honorable Edwin Warfield,

Chairman, Board of Public Works.

Dear Sir: -

Your letter of the 19th inst. enclosing letter from Mr. Oscar G. Murray, President of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company, addressed to the Board of Public Works of Maryland, received by this Committee, and in reply thereto, beg to enclose you copy of the report adopted by this Committee to-day, and directed to be made to the two Houses of the General Assembly. The enclosed report being the only report, which has been considered or acted upon by this Joint Special Committee.

Respectfully yours,

(signed) John L. V. Murray,

Secretary.

(signed) Carville D. Benson,

Chairman.

JOINT SPECIAL COMMITTEE

In the matter of the Washington Branch
of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company.

Old Senate Chamber,

Annapolis, Md., March 19, 1906.

Report of the Joint Special Committee in the
Matter of the Washington Branch of the
Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company.

Your Committee reports that they have made considerable progress in their work but are not yet prepared to submit a full statement and

final report on what has been done, together with their recommendations.

They, however, feel free to say that they will be able to present their report in season to afford ample time for consideration by the General Assembly.

Respectfully submitted,

(signed) John L. V. Murphy,

Secretary.

(signed) Carville D. Benson,

Chairman.

which, on motion of the Comptroller, seconded by the Treasurer, was ordered spread on the Minutes.

The Chairman read the following draft of a letter which he had prepared for transmission to Mr. Oscar G. Murray, President of the B. & O. R.R. Company, which, on motion of the Treasurer, seconded by the Comptroller, was ordered sent to Mr. Murray, and to be spread upon the Minutes of the Board of Public Works.

March 20, 1906..

Oscar G. Murray, Esq., President,
Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company,
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Sir:

Your communication of the 19th, in answer the request that the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company would make an offer for the holdings of the State of Maryland in the Washington Branch of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad was referred, by order of the Board, to the Joint Special Committee for their information.

The Board received this morning the enclosed letter from said Committee, which, by direction of the Board, I forward to you for your information, with the suggestion that if you propose, in view of the action of the said Committee as set forth in their letter, to again enter into negotiations looking to the purchase of this stock, the Board of Public Works would be very glad to entertain any proposition that you may have to make.

You understand that if the sale of the stock is made to you, there will be some legislation necessary to consummate the same. Hence, as the Session is nearing the time for final adjournment, prompt action must be taken in the matter.

The Board of Public Works hopes that you will again consider the question of purchasing the State's interest in the Washington Branch, and that you will see your way clear to bid \$2,500,000 for said stock, this being the amount that is now generally accepted as an adequate and proper price for the same.

Very sincerely yours,

(signed) Edwin Warfield,

Governor of Maryland, and
Chairman Board of Public
Works of Maryland.

The meeting at 4 p.m. adjourned.

(R. S. Hart),
Acting Secretary.